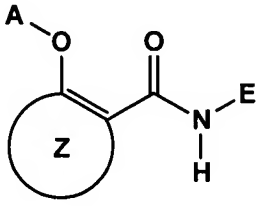
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A medicament having inhibitory activity against NF-κB activation which comprises as an active ingredient a substance selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by the following general formula (I) and a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, and a hydrate thereof and a solvate thereof:



(I)

wherein A represents hydrogen atom or acetyl group,

E represents a 2,5-di-substituted or a 3,5-di-substituted phenyl group, or a monocyclic or a fused polycyclic heteroaryl group which may be substituted, provided that the compound wherein said heteroaryl group is (1) a fused polycyclic heteroaryl group wherein the ring which binds directly to - CONH - group in the formula (I) is a benzene ring, (2) unsubstituted thiazol-2-yl group, or (3) unsubstituted benzothiazol-2-yl group is excluded,

ring Z represents an arene which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined above and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined above, or a heteroarene which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined above and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined above.

2. (Original) The medicament according to claim 1, wherein A is a hydrogen atom.

3. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~, wherein ring Z is a C_6 to C_{10} arene which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I) and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I), or a 5 to 10-membered heteroarene which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I) and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I).

4. (Original) The medicament according to claim 3, wherein ring Z is a benzene ring which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I) and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I), or a naphthalene ring which may have one or more substituents in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I) and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I).

5. (Original) The medicament according to claim 4, wherein ring Z is a benzene ring which is substituted with halogen atom(s) in addition to the group represented by formula - O - A wherein A has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I) and the group represented by formula - CONH - E wherein E has the same meaning as that defined in the general formula (I).

6. (Original) The medicament according to claim 4, wherein ring Z is a naphthalene ring.

7. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein E is a 2,5-di-substituted phenyl group or a 3,5-di-substituted phenyl group.

8. (Original) The medicament according to claim 7, wherein E is a 2,5-di-substituted phenyl group wherein at least one of said substituents is trifluoromethyl group, or a 3,5-di-substituted phenyl group wherein at least one of said substituents is trifluoromethyl group.

9. (Original) The medicament according to claim 8, wherein E is 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl group.

10. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein E is a monocyclic heteroaryl group which may be substituted or a fused polycyclic heteroaryl group which may be substituted, provided that the compounds wherein said heteroaryl group is a fused polycyclic heteroaryl group wherein the ring which binds directly to - CONH - group in the formula (I) is a benzene ring are excluded.

11. (Original) The medicament according to claim 10, wherein E is a 5-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group which may be substituted.

12. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, which is an inhibitor against expression of a gene for one or more substances selected from the following substance group δ:

[Substance group δ] tumor necrosis factor (TNF), interleukin-1, interleukin-2, interleukin-6, interleukin-8, granulocyte colony-stimulating factor, interferon β, cell adhension factor ICAM-1, VCAM-1, ELAM-1, nitricoxide synthetase, major histocompatibility antigen family class I, major histocompatibility antigen family class II, β2-microglobulin, immunoglobulin light chain, serum amyloid A, angiotensinogen, complement B, complement C4, c-myc, transcript derived from HIV gene, transcript derived from HTLV gene, transcript derived from simian virus 40 gene, transcript derived from cytomegalovirus gene, and transcript derived from adenovirus gene.

13. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, which is an inhibitor against production and release of an inflammatory cytokine or an immuno suppressive agent.

14. (Currently Amended) The medicament according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, which is used for preventive and/or therapeutic treatment of chronic rheumatism.